

M2127

SETTLED ACCOUNTS AND CLAIMS OF  
QUARTERMASTER OFFICERS,  
1817–1850,  
RELATING TO FORT MACKINAC, MICHIGAN

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## **INTRODUCTION**

On the nine rolls of this microfilm publication, M2127, are reproduced settled accounts and claims of quartermaster officers relating to Fort Mackinac, Michigan, 1817–50, from the Settled Accounts and Claims, 1817–1850 and 1878–1897, of the Third Auditor of the Treasury, which are part of Records of the Accounting Officers of the Department of the Treasury, Record Group (RG) 217. The series Settled Accounts and Claims is identified as Series 712 in William F. Sherman, comp., *Records of the Accounting Officers of the Department of the Treasury, Inventory 14 (Revised)* (Lovettsville, VA: Willow Bend Books, 1997).

## **BACKGROUND**

Fort Mackinac, originally Fort Michilimackinac, was established by British Commandant Patrick Sinclair on Mackinac Island during 1779–81. Although this area became U.S. territory as a result of the Treaty of Paris (1783), which concluded the American Revolution, British troops did not relinquish the fort to American military forces until 1796. During the War of 1812, British forces captured the fort, but it was again returned to American control after the Treaty of Ghent (1814). The U.S. Army garrisoned the fort until 1895, except for brief periods of abandonment when its troops were withdrawn to support the Second Seminole War (1837–40), Mexican War (1848), Santee Uprising (1857–58), and during the Civil War era (1861–67). During the summer of 1862, the fort served as a prison for three wealthy civilian Tennesseans who were Confederate sympathizers.

There was much civilian activity on the island as well. John Jacob Astor established the American Fur Company northern department headquarters on Mackinac Island, and by the 1820s the fur trade was flourishing. Furs from Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, and Minnesota were sent to Mackinac every summer where they were counted, sorted, and baled for shipment to the east coast and Europe. Commercial fishing replaced fur trading as the island's primary industry in the 1830s.

## **RECORDS DESCRIPTION**

The quartermaster officers of U.S. Army forts were responsible for procuring and storing provisions and military supplies, as well as for constructing and maintaining buildings. The records reproduced in this microfilm publication indicate the names of persons or companies that supplied products or labor to the quartermaster officers at Fort Mackinac. For example, Acting Assistant Quartermaster General James W. Penrose's 1835 accounts relate to procuring corn, oats, hay, straw, various building materials, and the extra duty employment of enlisted men in constructing buildings. There are also abstracts of the inventory of available tools and supplies, the amount of stationery, fuel wood, and straw issued to various officers, and so forth.

The quartermaster officers' accounts in this publication relate to activities from 1826 to 1847; no accounts for 1817–25 or 1848–50 were located. Each account or claim file consists of a report by the auditor; abstracts of requisitions, purchases, and disbursements; related vouchers; and other supporting documents or correspondence. The settled accounts are arranged numerically; periodically the accounting officers of the Treasury restarted the numbering sequence again at 1. An account may also relate to prior year(s) in addition to the year indicated in the roll list.

These records were filmed in 2006 by the National Archives, Washington, DC, for a customer's microfilm purchase. A negative set of this film was retained for reference purposes, and it was given the number M2127 in 2008 for issuance as a National Archives microfilm publication. The original manifests are now (2009) at the National Archives Building in Washington, DC.

## ROLL LIST

| ROLL | TARGET | ACCOUNT | QUARTERMASTER         | YEAR(S) | PAGES* |
|------|--------|---------|-----------------------|---------|--------|
| 1    | 1      | 5649    | Carlos A. Waite       | 1826    | 30     |
|      | 2      | 6811    | Alexander R. Thompson | 1826–27 | 40     |
|      | 3      | 7169    | Alexander R. Thompson | 1827–28 | 160    |
|      | 4      | 7690    | Alexander R. Thompson | 1828    | 28     |
|      | 5      | 7834    | Samuel P. Heintzelman | 1828    | 63     |
|      | 6      | 7909    | Alexander R. Thompson | 1828    | 14     |
|      | 7      | 8018    | Samuel P. Heintzelman | 1828    | 105    |
|      | 8      | 8223    | Samuel P. Heintzelman | 1828–29 | 96     |
|      | 9      | 8945    | Abner R. Hetzel       | 1828    | 66     |
|      | 10     | 9367    | Moses E. Merrill      | 1829    | 115    |
|      | 11     | 9398    | Abner R. Hetzel       | 1829    | 34     |
| 2    | 1      | 9770    | Moses E. Merrill      | 1829–30 | 100    |
|      | 2      | 10233   | Moses E. Merrill      | 1830    | 214    |
|      | 3      | 10610   | Isaac Lynde           | 1830    | 110    |
|      | 4      | 10966   | Isaac Lynde           | 1830    | 144    |
|      | 5      | 11199   | Isaac Lynde           | 1830    | 79     |
|      | 6      | 11375   | Isaac Lynde           | 1831    | 106    |
|      | 7      | 11416   | Moses E. Merrill      | 1831    | 39     |
| 3    | 1      | 11435   | Moses E. Merrill      | 1831    | 62     |
|      | 2      | 11895   | Moses E. Merrill      | 1832    | 122    |
|      | 3      | 1170    | J. R. Smith           | 1833    | 111    |
|      | 4      | 1415    | J. R. Smith           | 1833    | 97     |
|      | 5      | 1793    | James W. Penrose      | 1833    | 113    |
|      | 6      | 2910    | James W. Penrose      | 1834    | 179    |
|      | 7      | 3357    | James W. Penrose      | 1835    | 97     |
| 4    | 1      | 3713    | James W. Penrose      | 1835    | 148    |
|      | 2      | 35      | James W. Penrose      | 1835    | 292    |
|      | 3      | 887     | James W. Penrose      | 1836    | 138    |
|      | 4      | 1154    | James W. Penrose      | 1836    | 102    |
|      | 5      | 1299    | James W. Penrose      | 1836    | 129    |
| 5    | 1      | 1984    | M. R. Patrick         | 1837    | 145    |
|      | 2      | 2589    | M. R. Patrick         | 1837    | 163    |
|      | 3      | 13740   | John C. Pemberton     | 1840    | 92     |
|      | 4      | 15496   | G. W. Getty           | 1841–42 | 238    |
| 6    | 1      | 17445   | Henry Whiting         | 1841–42 | 618    |

\*Approximate number of pages in the file.

| ROLL | TARGET | ACCOUNT | QUARTERMASTER     | YEAR(S) | PAGES* |
|------|--------|---------|-------------------|---------|--------|
| 7    | 1      | 18715   | Henry Whiting     | 1843–44 | 280    |
|      | 2      | 367     | Henry Whiting     | 1844    | 76     |
| 8    | 1      | 922     | John C. Robinson  | 1844–45 | 516    |
|      | 2      | 1446    | Henry Whiting     | 1845    | 235    |
| 9    | 1      | 2053    | George C. Wescott | 1845    | 308    |
|      | 2      | 4268    | Fred Steele       | 1846–47 | 284    |